
NILES PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

6:00 pm

Board Members present: Dennis O'Donovan, Vice President
Jim Hynes, Commissioner
Ronnie Strzelecki, Commissioner

Staff Members present: Tom Elenz, Executive Director
Scot Neukirch, Finance Director
Heather Petrie, Executive Admin. Coordinator
Robin Brey, Recreation Programs
Laura Newton, Tam Tennis
Jim Majewski, Facilities Superintendent
Chris Czajka, Grounds Superintendent
Marty Stankowicz, IceLand
Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director
Julie Jentel, Marketing
Kenny Krueger, Athletics
Peter Dubs, Golf Course Club House

Jamie Baer, Attorney

1. **Call to order**

Vice President O'Donovan called the regular board meeting to order on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:01 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. Commissioners Genualdi and O'Brien were absent.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice President O'Donovan led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

4. **Changes to the Agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda.

5. **Consent Agenda Approval**

Minutes of the; Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 18, 2025 and Voucher List as presented February 28, 2025 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$158,185.71
Recreation	\$185,100.14
Ice Rink	\$72,562.61
Swimming Pool	\$4,079.31
Golf Course	\$51,168.86
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	-
General Liability	\$13,591.00

Paving & Lighting	\$487.00
Police Protection	\$108.00
Handicapped	\$52,633.50
Capital	\$6,353.74
Audit	\$6,500.00
Grand Total	\$550,770.81

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 18, 2025, and the Voucher lists as presented, February 28, 2025. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0.

6. Treasurer's Reports

Commissioner Hynes read the treasurer's report for the month ending February 2025.

A motion was made by Vice President O'Donovan and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to accept the February 2025 treasurer's report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0.

7. Reports of Park Officials

A. President's Report

There was no President's report.

B. Attorney's Report

There was no Attorney's report.

8. Board Reports

Robin Brey, Programs Supervisor

- Spring Break camp half day and full day options will be held next week for ages 3-6 at Howard Leisure Center.
- Pool Passes will be available for punches beginning April 1st. Pool pass holders are able to enter the waterpark one hour before general admission.
- Upcoming Spring Special Events next month.
- Bunny Breakfast 4/5, Scramble 4.12 and Flashlight Egg Hunt 4/16
- Pioneer Park will open for the season on April 5th of course weather permitting.

Laura Newton, Tam Tennis

As we have approached the end of two months we are ahead of last year at this time by \$23,181.

- **Budget** We are on track for the year.
- **Junior Programs** We are nearing the end of the winter session and will have registration for Spring March 15th.
- **Adults Programs** We are nearing the end of the winter session and will have registration for Spring March 15th.
- **Private Lessons** We are on track with our private lessons.
- **Court Fees** We are on track for year.
- **Memberships** We still have a few memberships coming in.
- **Fitness Programs** We are on track for the month.

Jim Majewski, Park Services

- Working on Pioneer batting cages and mini golf for their upcoming season
- Site fixtures and amenities have been ordered for Golf Mill Park
- I have WT Group working on state permits for Oasis pool guard chairs and pool heater
- Golf course north side stairs are being removed and replaced this week
- Golf course 5th tee bathrooms have been opened for the season

Marty Stankowicz, IceLand

- The outdoor rink was shut down on March 4th. Temperatures were in the 60's and the fall hockey season was complete as were all rental contracts.
- Spring hockey teams evaluations are scheduled for this week. Currently we have 7 teams with 122 total players . LTS registration for spring is still open. Classes are scheduled to start March 31.
- Ice show rehearsals and set design started last week. This year's show is scheduled for May 2-4.
- St. Patty's Day skate is scheduled for Saturday March 15, and our Bunny Hop skate is scheduled for March 30th.
- Planning field trips and hiring for summer camp counselors continues.

Chris Czajka, Superintendent of Grounds

- Snow removal and salting when needed
- NICO Park sign has been removed and is being restored in our shop
- Working with a family on a memorial tree donation at pioneer park
- Working on all equipment for this coming season
- Still Interviewing for the horticulturist position
- Cleaned up and did spring maintenance at the batting cages and mini golf at Pioneer for this springs opening.
- Cleaning up beds and putting down fresh mulch parkwide
- Playground inspections and repairs as needed.

Scot Neukirch, Finance Director

The process of compiling and collecting the field work documents for the 2024 audit is about 75% done. Next, staff will field questions from our auditors and then will begin working on the document for the Board's review.

Staff had a worker's compensation claim review with IPRF for 2024. There were only 2 claims for a total of less than \$800 which was the lowest claim total of the 5 years reviewed. The Finance Director thanked staff for making safety a priority.

Staff has continued to explore various accounting systems and contact references. Staff is focusing on 3 options and hope to decide soon and bring to the Board for approval.

Staff attended the 2024 financial review for IMRF, IMRF's investment portfolio earned a net return of 9.2% in 2024. Its investment portfolio grew by approximately 2.8 billion dollars. IMRF has an actuarially funded status of 96.4% .

Julie Jentel, Marketing

- The Summer Camp Guide is complete, and registration has begun.
- Finishing the Summer Fun Guide and adding the programs online. It will be out Tuesday April 1.
- Advertising all the spring special events and athletic programs that begin next month.

Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director

- Our indoor soccer and football leagues will be wrapping up over the next 2 weeks and basketball will conclude April 13. With spring breaks beginning for local grade schools, the slate of games is a bit lighter at this point of the season which is always a relief to us.
- With gym space and field space opening up due to winter leagues ending, our academies will start up again. VTBT will be on M-T-Th, Spike City Volleyball & Soccer Academy on Tuesdays.
- As busy as the winter sports season is, we have an even busier spring coming up. Girls softball registration ends this Friday 3/21, volleyball and soccer registration ends next Friday 3/28 and T-ball ends Monday 3/31. We begin our spring sessions the weekend April 26-27.
- We have 2 adult leagues currently in season. Three divisions of men's basketball on Wednesdays and co-ed volleyball on Thursdays. Registration concludes the first week of April for our adult softball leagues at Pioneer.

Peter Dubs, Tam Golf Course Club House

- The golf course took advantage of some early season warm weather and opened for the year this past Friday, March 14th. Daily operations will be weather permitting over the next few weeks with the grounds remaining closed on days when we do not anticipate being profitable.
- League and permanent tee times are finalizing their numbers for the season. These fees have begun coming in and are due by April 18th. Unless we have some unexpected changes, these revenues should be in line with the budget.
- We've secured ad space in the June issue of Chicago District Golfer Magazine...This will reach approximately 90,000 Chicago area golfers.
- Instructional golf programming has also begun over at the learning center. Chris welcomed 46 participants across his first set of classes for the year.

Eric Aguayo, Golf Course Maintenance

- With favorable weather finally arriving, we successfully cleaned and prepped all key playing areas for players to enjoy. Clean-up work on the rest of the course will continue.
- While the course is open, we are still finishing up winter maintenance on the remaining pieces of equipment
- We took delivery of our requested fairway mower and expect to put it to use once the turf grows consistently.
- Chemical and fertilizer orders have been placed and scheduled to be delivered within the next couple of weeks.

- We are actively searching for a seasonal worker to assist with daily golf course maintenance.

9. **New Business**

A. Discussion on snack vending

Many of the park districts vending machines are out of order or can't provide change or the prices are too high. Staff met with a Morton Grove company called Yami Fresh. They've guaranteed their vending machines are brand new and they can provide immediate service. Next month staff will bring a new vending machine agreement before the Board to review.

B. Discussion/Approval of a contract with Chicagoland Paving for court resurfacing

Staff went out to bid for the Nico Park tennis court and the basketball court. The bid came in at \$65,000 which was \$35,000 over budget. Staff was able to save \$25,000 on a budget irrigation installation and the Pioneer batting cage net is going to be repaired this year instead of a complete replacement, saving an additional \$25,000. With the additional savings of those two projects, staff recommends the approval of a contract with Chicagoland Paving in the amount of \$65,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to approve a contract with Chicagoland Paving in the amount of \$65,000. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0.

C. Discussion/Approval of an IGA with the Village of Niles for Golf Mill Park bathrooms

The Village had some changes to the IGA that the Board was informed of. The Park District attorney reviewed the changes and saw no issues with them. If they Board does not have any additional concerns, staff recommends approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to approve an IGA with the Village of Niles for Golf Mill Park bathrooms. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0.

10. **Old Business**

A. Update on Golf Mill Park project

Installation of the irrigation system has begun. The field work will continue once the irrigation system is complete. Once the asphalt plants open, sometime in April, the court installation will begin. The project is still on target for mid-summer.

11. **Miscellaneous**

Staff informed the Board that the Park District went out to bid for pool painting and received one bid that was \$30,000 over budget, so staff decided to rebid the project for completion in the

fall.

12. Public Comments

Niles resident Christine Vlaovic Bachmeier, was present to address the Board regarding setting up a separate entrance/line for pool pass holders.

She also made a special point of acknowledging Edmond Bahi for his contributions at the pool.

13. Executive Session

There was no need for an Executive Session.

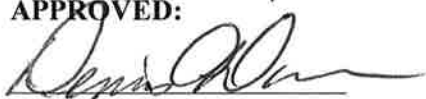
14. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice President O'Donovan and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to adjourn the regular board meeting. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVED:



President O'Donovan
Board of Commissioners
Date: March 18, 2025



Board Secretary